Shelby County Election Commission

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For Immediate Release

Shelby County Commission Seeks Public Input at Meeting Tuesday

Jan. 30, 2015 (Memphis, Tenn.) Shelby County Election Commissioners are considering consolidating a number of precincts around the county, and want the public's opinion.

Commissioners are hoping potentially affected voters will attend a committee meeting Wednesday, February 4 at 4 p.m., during which the matter will be discussed before being put to a vote at the regular commission meeting on February 18 at 4 p.m. Both meetings will take place at the SCEC Operations Center located at 980 Nixon Drive.

A second group of proposed precinct consolidations will be discussed at a committee meeting on March 4 at 4 p.m. at the Operations Center. Commissioners will vote on whether to proceed with any or all of the second group of proposed precinct consolidations on March 18. A listing of those precincts will be released at the end of February.

According to Richard Holden, administrator of elections at SCEC, the goal is to better serve voters. "The purpose of the move to consolidate the precincts is to provide voters with better service during voting," he said. "Having fewer precincts will improve the quality of election officials at each polling place."

Tennessee state law mandates that each precinct contain no more than 6,000 registered voters. In Shelby County, some of the current precincts have as few as 322 voters. Only voters in smaller precincts, which may be consolidated with larger ones, would be affected. Voters in the larger precincts will continue to vote in the same polling place. Only the voters in the group of smaller precincts would have a new polling place.

To view a list of precinct numbers that may be affected by the proposed consolidations, visit www.shelbyvote.com and click on Proposed Precinct Consolidations. A precinct locator is also available at www.shelbyvote.com.

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